

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (cancelled)

2 (currently amended): ~~The display of claim 1~~ A display comprising:

(a) an electrophoretic display element capable of changing its appearance in response to an electric field; and

(b) an electrode adjacent said display element, said electrode comprising a protective layer adapted to prevent mechanical or electrochemical damage to said display element,

wherein said electrophoretic display element comprises:

- (i) a capsule;
- (ii) a dispersing fluid having a first optical property disposed within said capsule; and
- (iii) at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle disposed within said capsule, said at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle having a second optical property different from said first optical property, said at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle adapted to change position within said capsule under the influence of an applied electric field, thereby changing the optical properties of said display element.

3 (original): The display of claim 2 wherein said protective layer is flexible.

4 (original): The display of claim 2 wherein said protective layer is adapted to prevent mechanical removal of said electrophoretic element from said display.

5 (original): The display of claim 2 wherein said protective layer comprises a plurality of conductors extending therethrough.

6 (currently amended): ~~The display of claim 1~~ A display comprising:

(a) an electrophoretic display element capable of changing its appearance in response to an electric field; and

(b) an electrode adjacent said display element, said electrode comprising a protective layer adapted to prevent mechanical or electrochemical damage to said display element,

wherein said electrode is transparent and the protective layer is disposed upon said transparent electrode, said protective layer being capable of protecting said transparent electrode from degradation under the application of an electrical potential.

7 (previously presented): The display of claim 6 wherein said electrode is transparent and comprises one or more oxides selected from the group consisting of indium oxide, tin oxide and indium tin oxide.

8 (original): The display of claim 6 wherein said protective layer comprises at least one chemical composition selected from the group consisting of the metals nickel, palladium, platinum, ruthenium, rhodium, silver, aluminum, gold, titanium, chromium and zinc, and the oxides silver oxide (AgO), aluminum oxide (Al₂O₃), gold (III) oxide (Au₂O₃), titanium (II) oxide (TiO), titanium (IV) oxide (TiO₂), chromium (III) oxide (Cr₂O₃), chromium (VI) oxide (CrO₃), zinc oxide (ZnO), nickel (II) oxide (NiO), palladium (II) oxide (PdO), platinum (IV) oxide (PtO₂), ruthenium (IV) oxide (RuO₂), and rhodium (III) oxide (Rh₂O₃).

9 (original): The display of claim 8 wherein said protective layer comprises palladium.

10 (original): The display of claim 8 wherein said protective layer has a thickness not greater than approximately 10 nm.

11-20 (cancelled)

21 (previously presented): An electrostatically addressable display, comprising:

(a) an electrophoretic display element having a first surface and a second surface, said electrophoretic display element comprising:

(i) a capsule;

- (ii) a dispersing fluid having a first optical property disposed within said capsule; and
 - (iii) at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle disposed within said capsule, said at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle having a second optical property different from said first optical property, said at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle adapted to change position within said capsule under the influence of an applied electric field, thereby changing the optical properties of said display element; and
- (b) a protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element, said protective layer capable of transmitting charge; and
- (c) an electrode disposed adjacent said second surface of said display element, wherein application of an electrostatic voltage of less than 1000 volts across the display creates an electrostatic voltage of at least 5 volts across the electrophoretic element.

22 (previously presented): An electrostatically addressable display, comprising:

- (a) an electrophoretic display element having a first surface and a second surface, said electrophoretic display element comprising:
- (i) a capsule;
 - (ii) a dispersing fluid having a first optical property disposed within said capsule; and
 - (iii) at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle disposed within said capsule, said at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle having a second optical property different from said first optical property, said at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle adapted to change position within said capsule under the influence of an applied electric field, thereby changing the optical properties of said display element; and
- (b) a protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element, said protective layer capable of transmitting charge; and
- (c) an electrode disposed adjacent said second surface of said display element,

wherein said protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said capsule comprises a layer having a resistivity less than 10^{12} ohm-centimeters and said electrophoretic element comprises a material having a resistivity greater than 10^{12} ohm-centimeters.

23 (previously presented): An electrostatically addressable display, comprising:

- (a) an electrophoretic display element having a first surface and a second surface, said electrophoretic display element comprising:
 - (i) a capsule;
 - (ii) a dispersing fluid having a first optical property disposed within said capsule; and
 - (iii) at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle disposed within said capsule, said at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle having a second optical property different from said first optical property, said at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle adapted to change position within said capsule under the influence of an applied electric field, thereby changing the optical properties of said display element; and
- (b) a protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element, said protective layer capable of transmitting charge; and
- (c) an electrode disposed adjacent said second surface of said display element,

wherein said protective layer comprises a material having a resistivity greater than a resistivity of said electrophoretic element and a thickness that is not more than 20% of the thickness of a layer of said electrophoretic elements, whereby a resistance of said protective layer is approximately 20% of a resistance of said electrophoretic element.

24 (previously presented): An electrostatically addressable display, comprising:

- (a) an electrophoretic display element having a first surface and a second surface;
- (b) a flexible protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element, said protective layer capable of transmitting charge; and

(c) an electrode disposed adjacent said second surface of said display element,
wherein said protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element
comprises a layer of polymeric material.

25 (cancelled)

26 (previously presented): An electrostatically addressable display, comprising:

- (a) an electrophoretic display element having a first surface and a second surface;
 - (b) a flexible protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element, said protective layer capable of transmitting charge; and
 - (c) an electrode disposed adjacent said second surface of said display element.
- wherein said protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element
comprises a layer of an insulating material having a plurality of conductive structures
extending therethrough.

27 (previously presented): An electrostatically addressable display, comprising:

- (a) an electrophoretic display element having a first surface and a second surface;
 - (b) a flexible protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element, said protective layer capable of transmitting charge; and
 - (c) an electrode disposed adjacent said second surface of said display element,
- wherein said protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element
comprises a first region having a first resistivity and a second region having a second
resistivity.

28 (original): The display of claim 27 wherein said first region having a first resistivity and said
second region having a second resistivity comprise a material which is doped differently
within said first region and said second region.

29 (original): The display of claim 27 wherein the less conductive of said first and said second regions is continuous and surrounds an array of isolated segments of the more conductive of said first and said second regions.

30 (original): The display of claim 29 wherein said less conductive of said first and said second regions comprises vias providing access to said array of isolated segments.

31 (original): The display of claim 29 wherein said less conductive of said first and said second materials comprises a region that is continuous and that surrounds an array of islands of the more conductive of said first and said second materials, and said less conductive of said first and said second materials comprises pinholes providing access to said array of islands.

32 (previously presented): An electrostatically addressable display, comprising:

- (a) an electrophoretic display element having a first surface and a second surface;
 - (b) a flexible protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element, said protective layer capable of transmitting charge; and
 - (c) an electrode disposed adjacent said second surface of said display element,
- wherein said protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element comprises a first region having a first resistivity and a plurality of regions having a second resistivity.

33 (original): The display of claim 32 wherein said plurality of regions having a second resistivity comprises arrays of three islands.

34-36 (cancelled)

37 (previously presented): A method for addressing an electrostatically addressable display element, comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing an electrophoretic element comprising:
 - (i) a capsule;
 - (ii) a dispersing fluid having a first optical property disposed within said capsule; and

- (iii) at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle disposed within said capsule, said at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle having a second optical property different from said first optical property, said at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle adapted to change position within said capsule under the influence of an applied electric field, thereby changing the optical properties of said display element;
 - (b) providing a protective layer disposed adjacent said capsule, said protective layer adapted to transmit charge;
 - (c) providing a first electrode disposed adjacent said capsule;
 - (d) disposing adjacent said protective layer an addressing electrode; and
 - (e) activating said addressing electrode in conjunction with said first electrode to subject said electrophoretic element to a selected one of said first applied electric field and said second applied electric field produced between said first electrode and said addressing electrode so as to address said electrophoretic element,
- wherein said addressing electrode comprises part of a printer apparatus through which said display element is passed to effect said addressing.

38-40 (cancelled)